

2001: A SPACE
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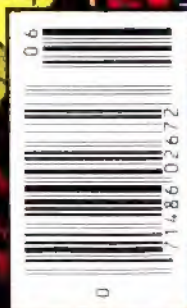
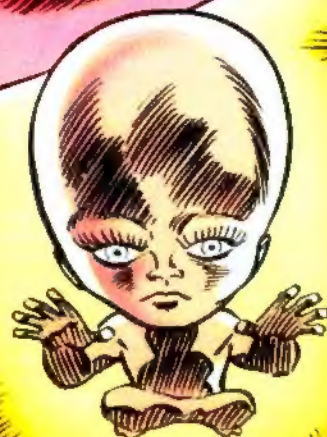
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2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY™

AT LAST! THE MOST FANTASTIC
REVELATION OF THEM ALL!

THE NEW SEED!



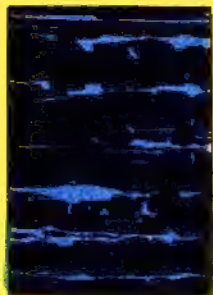
SPAWNED BY THE
MONOLITH, IS IT
SAVIOR-- OR
DESTRUCTOR?!

STAN LEE PRESENTS

2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY™

BASED ON CONCEPTS OF THE MGM MOVIE BY STANLEY KUBRICK AND ARTHUR C. CLARKE

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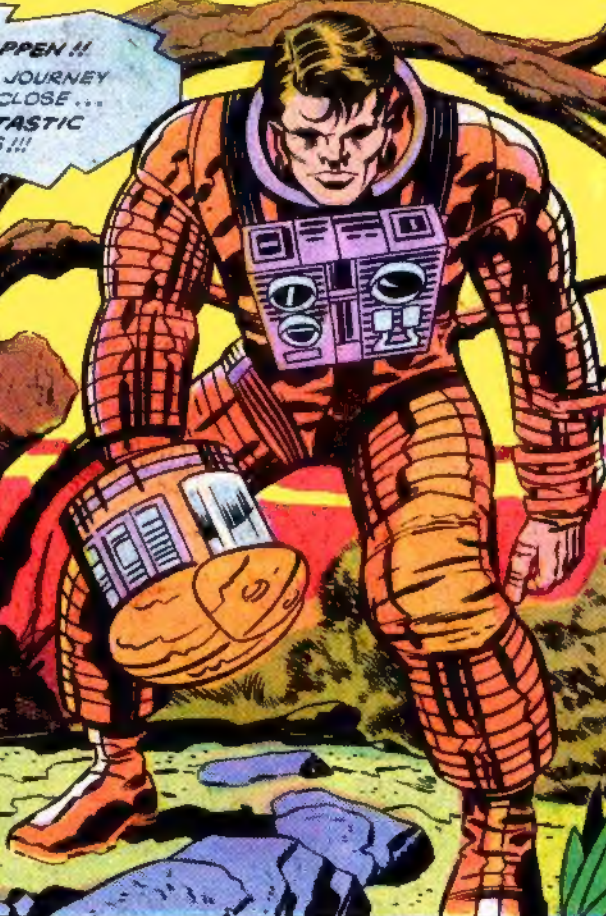
WHAT IS THE MONOLITH? A SLAB OF STONE --? THE TOOL OF AN ALIEN INTELLIGENCE --? THE ALIEN ITSELF?

WHAT IS MAN? IS HE A MORTAL SHELL IN THE GREAT UNIVERSAL DESIGN --? OR A CREATURE ON A JOURNEY BEYOND HIS OWN WILDEST IMAGINATION?

THE ANSWER CAN ONLY COME WHEN THESE TWO MOST EXTRAORDINARY FORCES MEET TO CREATE --

the NEW SEED!

SEE IT HAPPEN!!
AS THIS MAN'S JOURNEY
DRAWS TO ITS CLOSE...
A MORE FANTASTIC
TRIP BEGINS!!!



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GORDON PRUETT IS **TOTALLY** UNAWARE OF WHO HE IS, OR WHERE HE'S BEEN. HE REMEMBERS NOTHING OF THE **ACCIDENT** IN SPACE-- THE ERUPTION OF THE ATOMIC PILE WHICH DESTROYED HIS SHIP...

THERE IS NO MEMORY OF THE **BLINDING FLASH**-- NO MEMORY OF HIS FELLOW ASTRONAUTS WHO DIED IN THE **BLAST**-- NO THOUGHT OF THE **DESTINY** WHICH PLACED HIM BEYOND THE SHIP WHEN IT OCCURRED...



FLUNG LIKE A TOY INTO THE **STAR FIELDS**, PRUETT HAS BEEN TRAUMATIZED BY THE **TERROR** OF HIS ORDEAL. HE DOESN'T EVEN REALIZE THAT HIS BULKY SPACE-SUIT HAS BEEN REPLACED BY EARTHLY **OUTDOOR CLOTHES**...



HOW PRUETT **LOVES** THE COOL GREEN FOREST LANDSCAPES OF HIS NATIVE COLORADO. THAT IS WHY HE IS CALM IN THIS PLACE--**SECURE**-- CONTENT, AND UNAWARE OF HOW HE CAME TO IT...



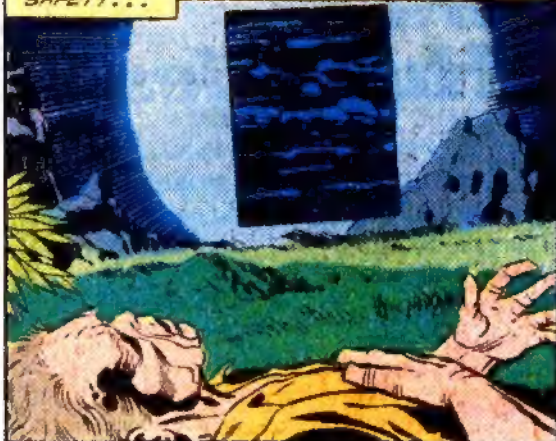
THE MIRACLE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED, AND WHAT IS YET TO HAPPEN, IS **LOST** UPON PRUETT. FATIGUE GROWS STRONGER IN HIS BODY. HE IS **AGING** RAPIDLY, WITH EVERY PASSING SECOND...



THE NEED FOR A LONG REST STEALS OVER HIM AS HE SEEKS THE COMFORT OF THE SOFT GRASSY CARPET. IT IS THEN THAT THE **MONOLITH** APPEARS...



AN ALIEN MYSTERY FROM THE OUTER REACHES OF SPACE AND TIME, THE MONOLITH HAS BEEN A SILENT WITNESS TO PRUETT'S ADVENTURE--AND HIS SHEPHERD TO THIS PLACE OF SAFETY...



MORE THAN THAT, THE MONOLITH IS THE CREATOR OF THIS HAVEN--HAVING PREPARED IT WITH MASTERFUL SKILL, TO CONTAIN THE SUBJECT OF ITS EXPERIMENT...



THE PURPOSE IS TO USE THE MATERIAL THAT IS HUMAN AND TO EXPLOIT IT TO ITS FULLEST POTENTIAL--TO CHANGE IT SO THAT IT CAN EXIST ON A LEVEL THAT IT COULD NOT HAVE ATTAINED IN ITS NORMAL FORM...



PRUETT HAS PASSED ON PEACEFULLY. OLD AGE HAS OVERTAKEN HIM IN A MATTER OF MINUTES--AND WHAT REMAINS OF HIM IS SOON COVERED WITH A GOSSAMER WEB OF ATOMIC PARTICLES...



BENEATH THE THICKENING FILM, THE CHANGE IS TAKING PLACE. THE TIMELESS SONG OF DANCING ATOMS HERALDS THE ARRIVAL OF ANOTHER LIFE...



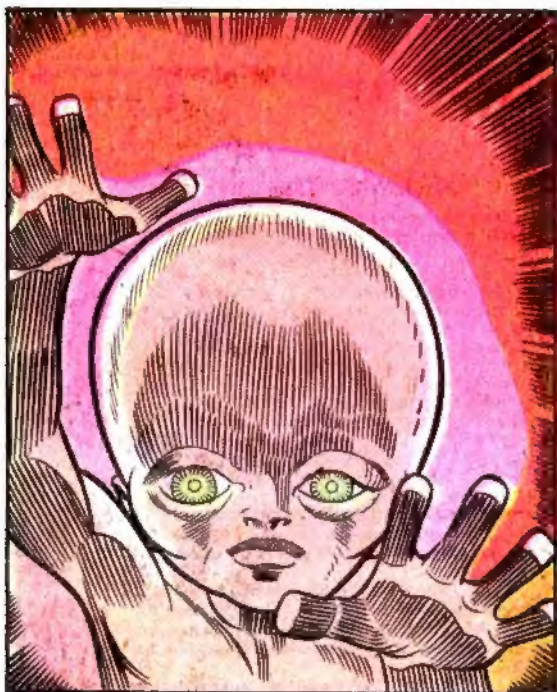
THE FILM GROWS TRANSPARENT ONCE MORE AND REVEALS TO THE MONOLITH A MOST SUCCESSFUL EFFORT--THE NEW SEED!!



THE NEW SEED STIRS. IT LIVES. IT NO LONGER NEEDS THE ENVIRONMENT MEANT FOR PRUETT. WHEN THE MONOLITH ACTS, THE HAVEN VANISHES, AND ONLY THE STARS REMAIN...



HERE IN SPACE IS THE ELEMENT THAT NOURISHES THE SEED. HERE IT WILL EXERCISE ALL ITS POWER AND WISDOM. FROM ITS PROTECTIVE NIMBUS, IT LOOKS OUT UPON THE UNIVERSE-- ITS HOME...



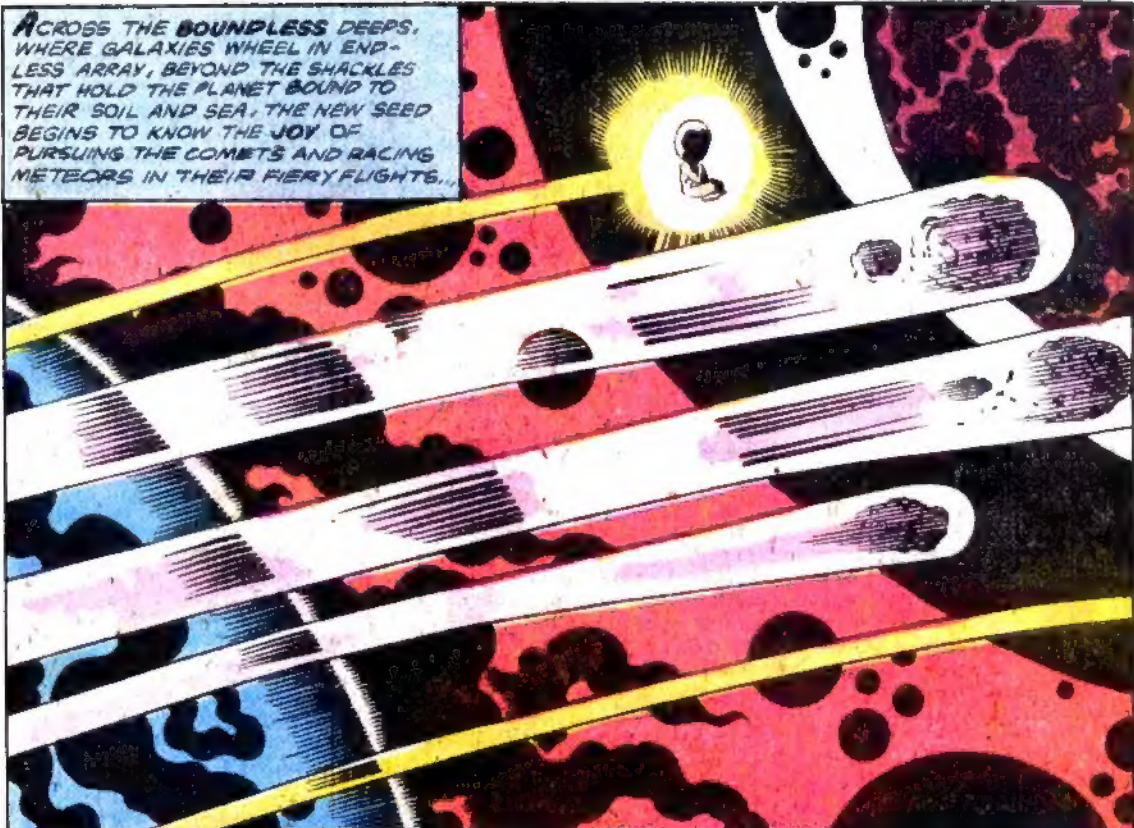
THEN, THE NEW SEED TAKES FLIGHT. IT SPIRALS HAPPILY AROUND THE MONOLITH IN FINAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE OBJECT THAT BROUGHT IT INTO BEING...



THE ACT OF DEPARTURE IS SUDDEN AND SWIFT. THE MONOLITH HANGS IMMOBILE AGAINST THE STARS AS ITS CREATURE STREAKS OFF...



ACROSS THE BOUNDLESS DEEPS,
WHERE GALAXIES WHEEL IN END-
LESS ARRAY, BEYOND THE SHACKLES
THAT HOLD THE PLANET BOUND TO
THEIR SOIL AND SEA, THE NEW SEED
BEGINS TO KNOW THE JOY OF
PURSUING THE COMETS AND RACING
METEORS IN THEIR FIERY FLIGHTS...



IN ITS JOURNEY, THE NEW SEED TOUCHES
WORLDS OF UNTOLD AGE--COLD AND SAD
AND BARREN OF THE FRUIT OF LIFE...



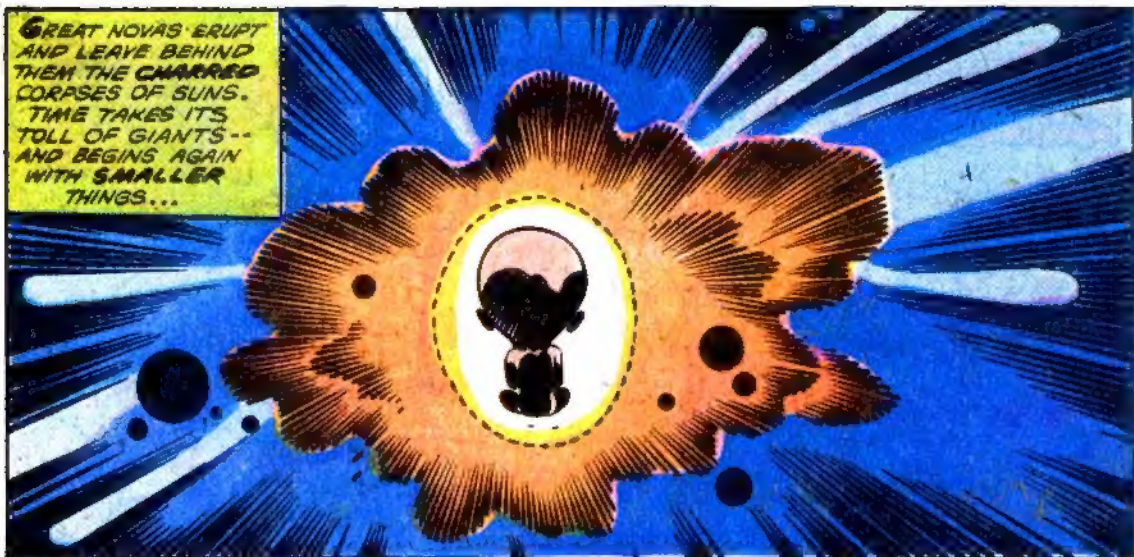
THERE ARE YOUNG
PLANETS WHERE LIFE
HAS TAKEN ROOT. IT IS
SAVAGE AND EAGER
TO SURVIVE--AWAITING
THE PROMISES AND
TRIALS OF PASSING
TIME...



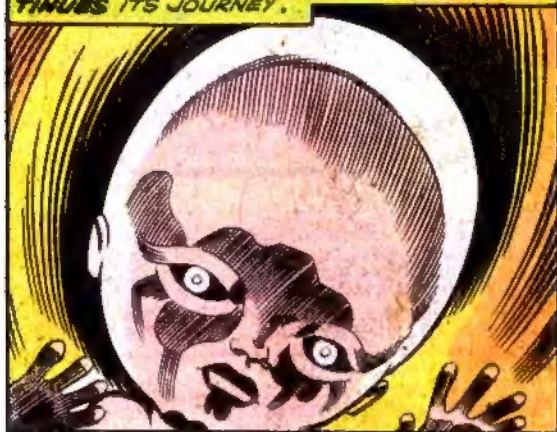
THERE ARE ALSO PLACES WHERE THE
TECHNOLOGY REIGNS SUPREME! WORLD
LINKED WITH WORLD BY MECHANISMS OF
STAGGERING ACCOMPLISHMENTS!!
THE NEW SEED LOOKS UPON
CIVILIZATIONS THAT DWARF
THE STAR SYSTEMS WHICH
SPAWNED THEM...



GREAT NOVAS ERUPT
AND LEAVE BEHIND
THEM THE CHARRED
CORPSES OF SUNS.
TIME TAKES ITS
TOLL OF GIANTS--
AND BEGINS AGAIN
WITH SMALLER
THINGS...



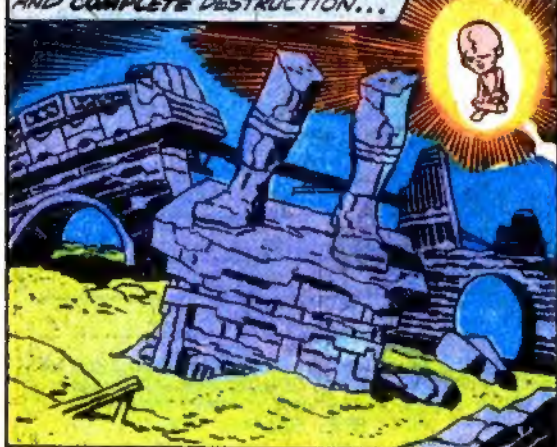
THE UNIVERSE SEEMS TO BE A VAST SELF-
REPLENISHING STRUCTURE THAT LIVES AND
BREATHES ACCORDING TO ITS OWN RHYTHM.
THE NEW SEED LEARNS QUICKLY AND CON-
TINUES ITS JOURNEY.



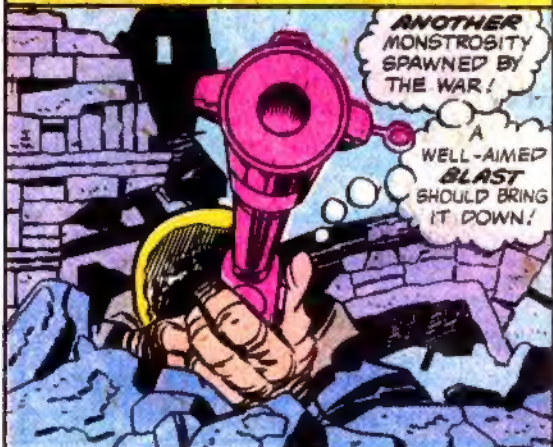
BUT THERE ARE WORLDS THAT DO NOT DIE
FROM NATURAL CAUSES. THERE ARE WORLDS
WHICH PERISH FROM THE VERY LIVING
THINGS THAT THEY BRING INTO BEING...



THE NEW SEED SENSES THE PLANET OF
SMASHED CITIES FROM AFAR. IT SWOOPS
LOW TO MARVEL AT THE FOLLY WHICH
COULD GENERATE SUCH MASSIVE
AND COMPLETE DESTRUCTION...



IN THE RUBBLE AND ASHES, LIFE STILL STIRS.
IT IS LIFE DOOMED BY THE SULLIED AIR
AND THE MUTATED BOTULISMS THAT NOW
FLOURISH IN DEADLY SWARMS...



THE RIFLE TRAINED ON THE NEW SEED
SUDDENLY BURSTS INTO FLAME!

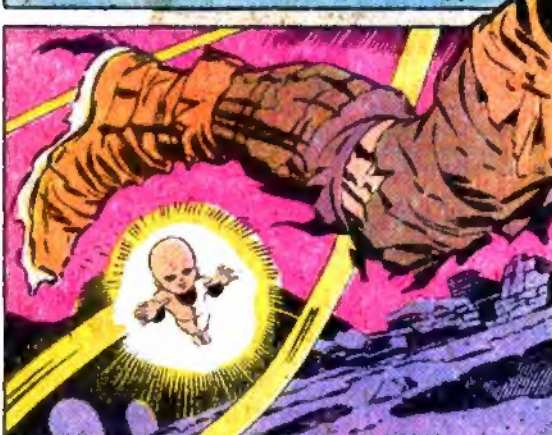


THIS IS NO ACT OF SELF-DEFENSE--
BUT A MEANS OF **RESTRAINING**
THE CREATURE FROM
UNNECESSARY
VIOLENCE!

I-IT'S A
LIVING
FLAME-THROWER!
I HAVEN'T
GOT A CHANCE!



FEAR AND DESPERATION IS NOW THE WAY OF
LIFE FOR THIS PLANET'S REMAINING INHABITANTS.
WHEN DEFEATED, THEY FLEE TO PRESERVE
WHAT FEW DAYS ARE LEFT TO THEM...

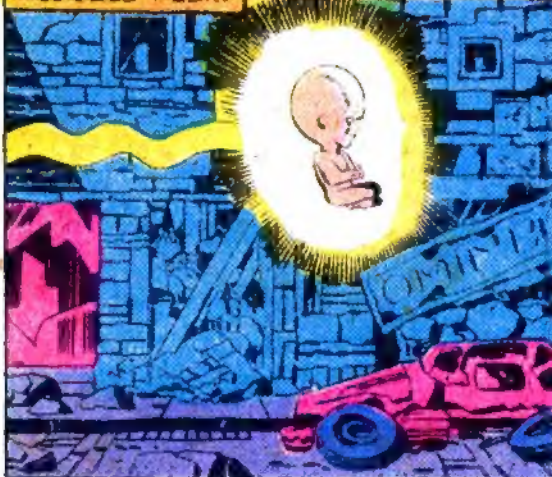


THIS IS TRAGEDY ON A
HEART-RENDING SCALE.
THESE BEINGS AND
THEIR POTENTIAL FOR
GREATNESS ARE
IRRETRIEVABLY
LOST!

HE FLEES
TO HIS **OWN**
EXTINCTION!



AS THE NEW SEED PROCEEDS ON TO FURTHER
STUDY, THE SHATTERED STREETS UNFOLD THE
MISERABLE TALE...



THE ULTIMATE WAR HAS CLAIMED ITS ULTIMATE
VICTIM!--THE PLANET ITSELF! IT'S SUP-
PORT OF LIFE IS DWINDLING RAPIDLY. WHAT
LURKS IN THE RUINS LIVES ON BORROWED
TIME...

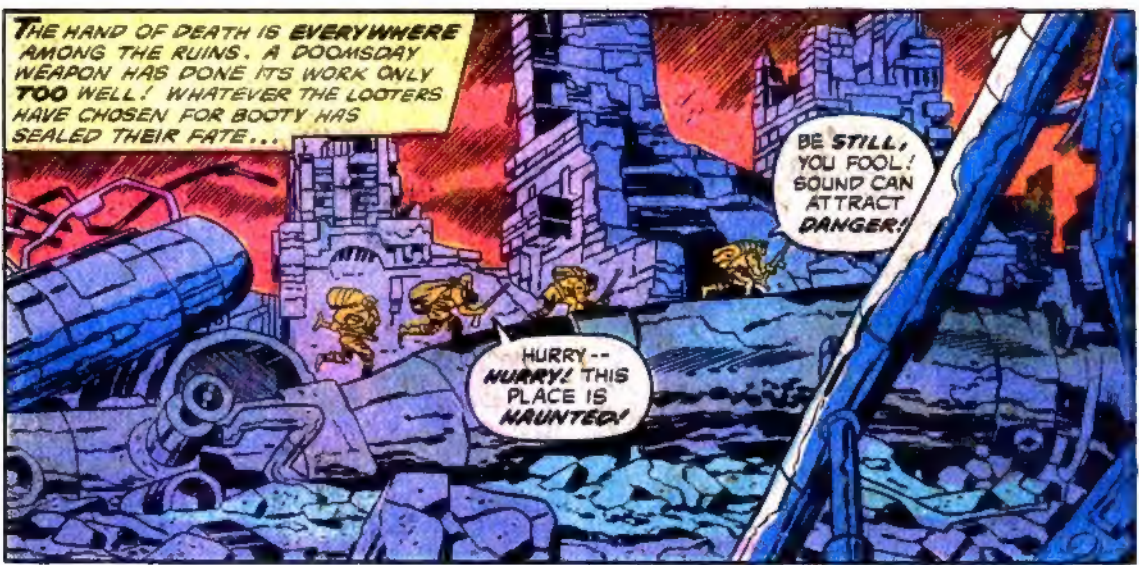
DO YOU SEE
THAT THING?
W-WHAT IS
IT?!

WHO KNOWS!
WHO
CARES
?!!

YEAH!
LET'S
PICK UP
OUR **LOOT**
AN' GET
OUTTA HERE!



THE HAND OF DEATH IS EVERYWHERE AMONG THE RUINS. A DOOMSDAY WEAPON HAS DONE ITS WORK ONLY TOO WELL! WHATEVER THE LOOTERS HAVE CHOSEN FOR BOOTY HAS SEALED THEIR FATE...



BE STILL, YOU FOOL! SOUND CAN ATTRACT DANGER!

HURRY-- HURRY! THIS PLACE IS HAUNTED!

BUT DANGER HAS BEEN WITH THE LOOTERS FROM THE START...

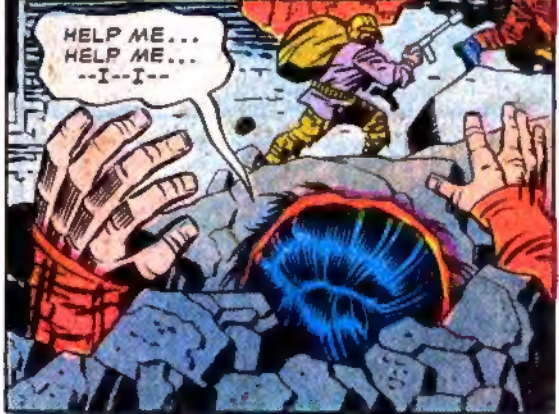


UGNH--! C-CAN'T BREATHE! --CAN'T--!

H-HE'S CONTAMINATED! DON'T TOUCH HIM!

KEEP GOING!

WITH NO SIGN OF COMPASSION, THE LOOTERS LEAVE THEIR STRICKEN COMPANION BEHIND. HIS FEVERED PLEAS FADE TO A WHISPER AS THEY VANISH...



HELP ME... HELP ME... --I--I--

SLOWLY, INEVITABLY, THE FATAL INFECTION EXPANDS AND DEVOURS ITS HOST, UNTIL HIS HUSK IS ADDED TO THE HEAP OF EMPTY SHELLS THAT LIE BENEATH THE LOW DUSTY CLOUDS WHICH DRIFT ACROSS THE SKY...



IF THERE IS PAIN OR GRIEF AT THE SCENE, ONLY THE NEW SEED CAN ATTEST TO IT-- FOR THE SPECTATOR ETERNALLY FEELS WHAT THE PARTICIPANT CANNOT...

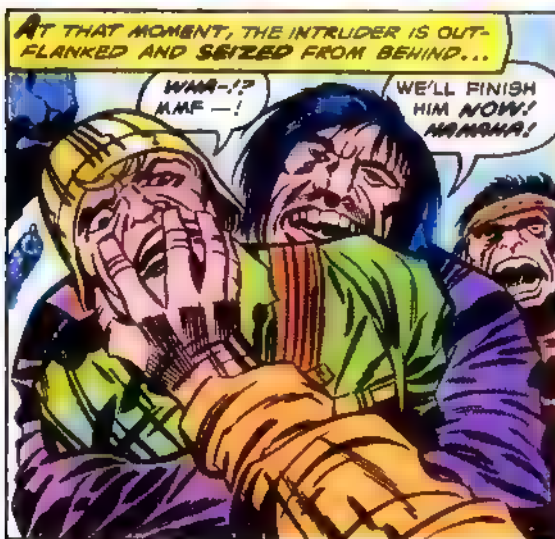
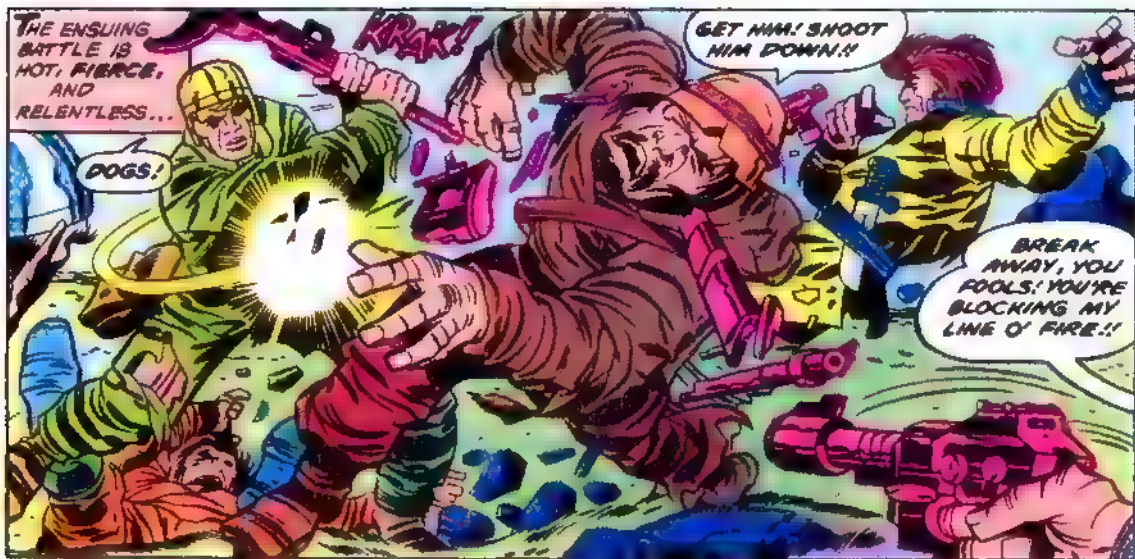


UGH!! THE SHE-DEVIL STRUGGLES LIKE A CRAZED ANIMAL!

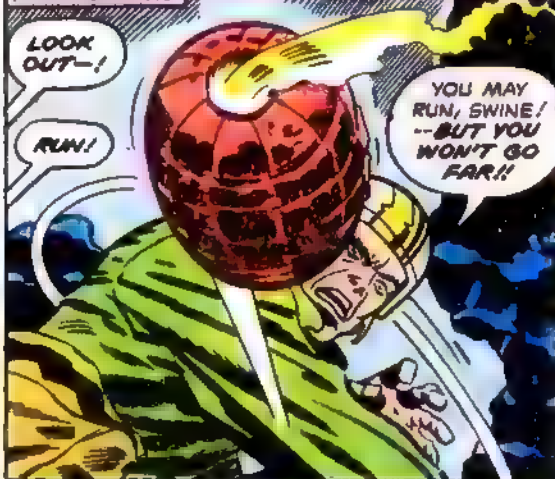
WE'LL CALM HER DOWN! A FEW HARD CUFFS SHOULD HAVE HER BEGGIN' FOR MERCY IN SHORT ORDER!

NO! NO!

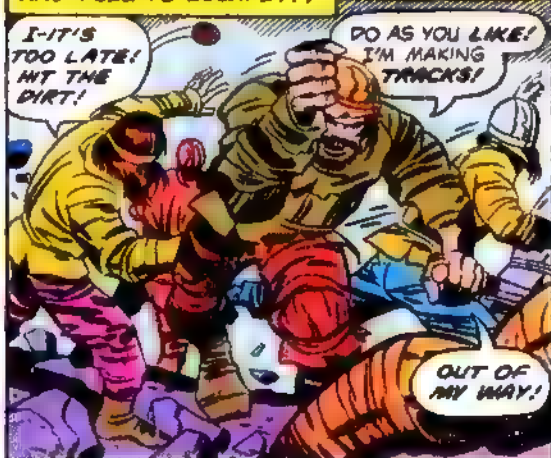
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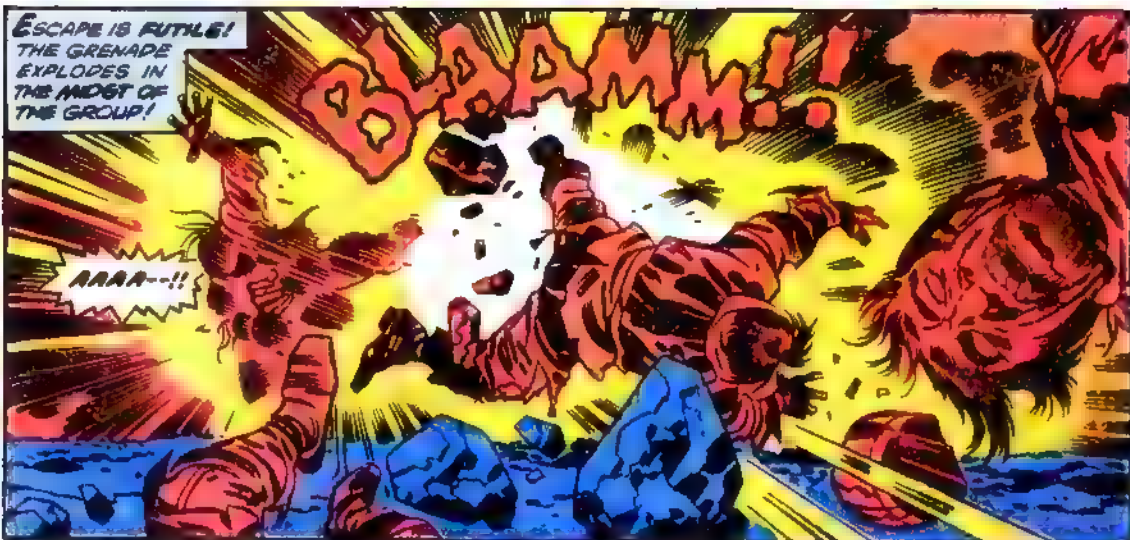
THEN, LIKE A SERPENT, HIS HAND FLASHES INTO VIEW AND HURLS A GRENADE AT HIS ADVERSARY...



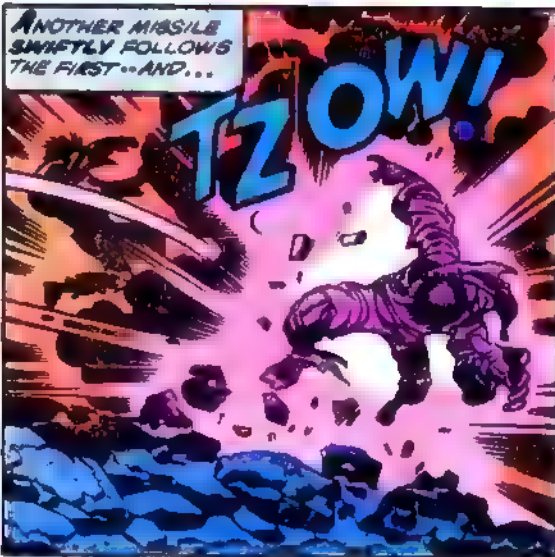
THE ENEMY STARES IN HORROR FOR A BRIEF HEARTBEAT AT THE EGG-SHAPED OBJECT IN ITS DEADLY ARC. SUDDENLY, THEY TURN AND FLEE TO ESCAPE...



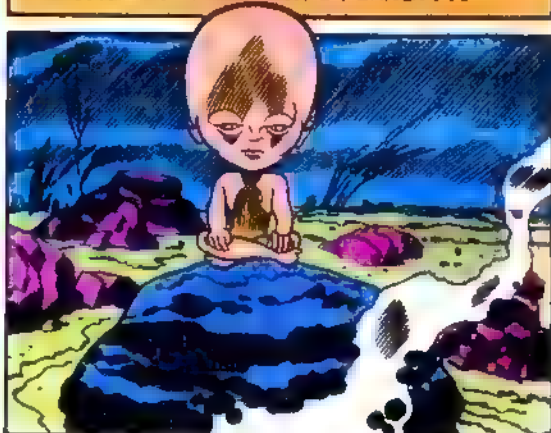
ESCAPE IS FUTILE! THE GRENADE EXPLODES IN THE MIST OF THE GROUP!



ANOTHER MISSILE SWIFTLY FOLLOWS THE FIRST--AND...



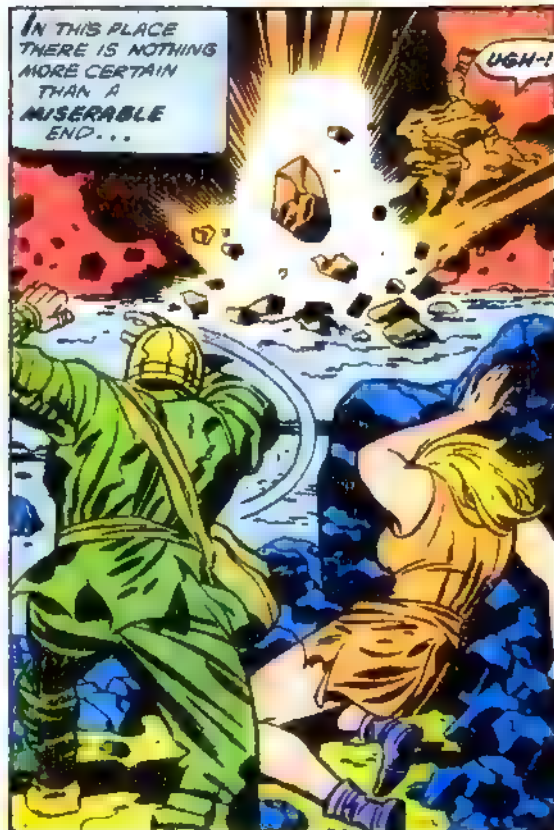
VIOLENCE BEGETS GREATER VIOLENCE, AND IN EVER MOUNTING FURY, BLOSSOMS LIKE A DEATH-FLOWER UNTIL IT FINALLY ENGULFS A WORLD. THUS, THE NEW SEED WITNESSES THE SAD HISTORY OF THIS PLANET...





IT IS FAR EASIER TO STOP THE RISING SUN, THAN HATRED UNLEASHED! IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO STAY THE HAND WHICH HOLDS VICTORY IN ITS CLENCHED FIST...

NO!
NO--!!



IN THIS PLACE THERE IS NOTHING MORE CERTAIN THAN A MISERABLE END...

UGH-!



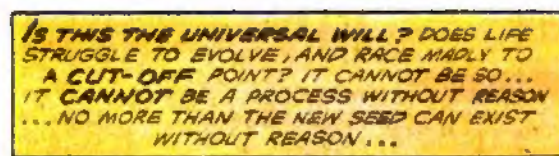
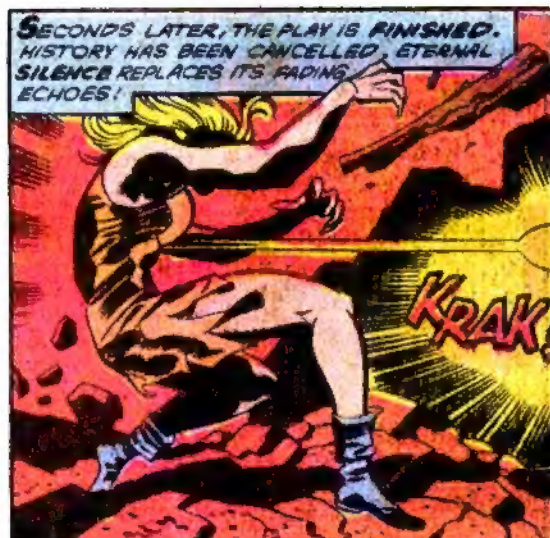
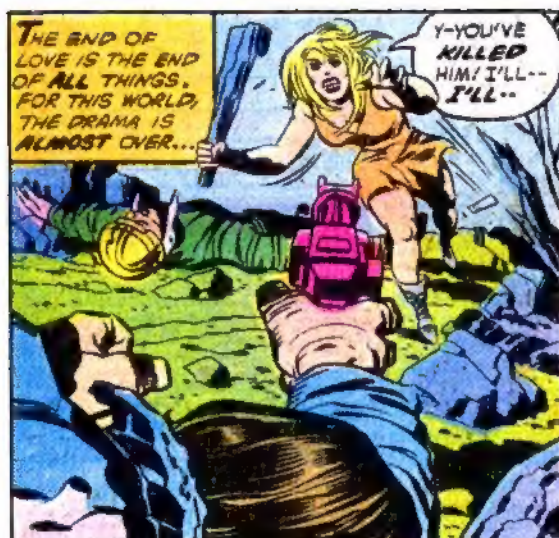
AND YET, THERE HAS BEEN LOVE HERE... AND THE STEEL WILL TO PROTECT IT--THE VAIN HOPE OF NURTURING IT IN THE LAST AGONIES OF A SUICIDAL WORLD.

Y-YOU'RE UNHARMED!
I THANK THE FATES FOR THAT--!

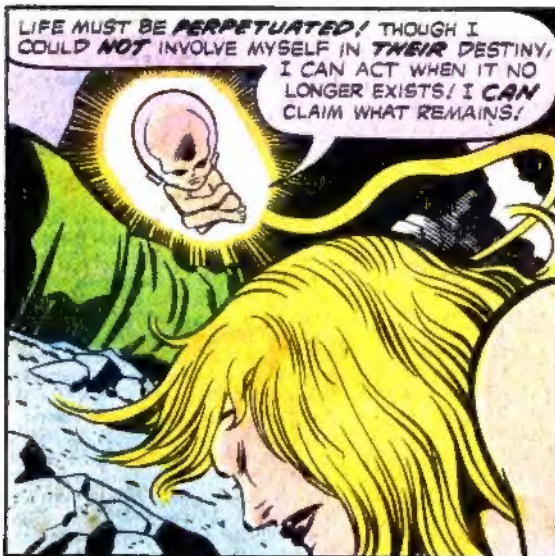
NEVER LEAVE ME AGAIN.
I WANT TO BE AT YOUR SIDE, ALWAYS!



BUT IT IS MUCH TOO LATE FOR WHAT WAS GOOD ON THIS PLANET. DEATH IS NOW THE MASTER HERE! HE RULES BY "RIGHT OF HOLOCAUST!" THOSE ON THE POINT OF DYING OBBY HIS WHIMS WITH THEIR FINAL BREATH...



LIFE MUST BE PERPETUATED! THOUGH I COULD NOT INVOLVE MYSELF IN THEIR DESTINY, I CAN ACT WHEN IT NO LONGER EXISTS! I CAN CLAIM WHAT REMAINS!



I CLAIM ALL THAT LIES WITHIN THESE TWO, WHICH SPARKS REGENERATION



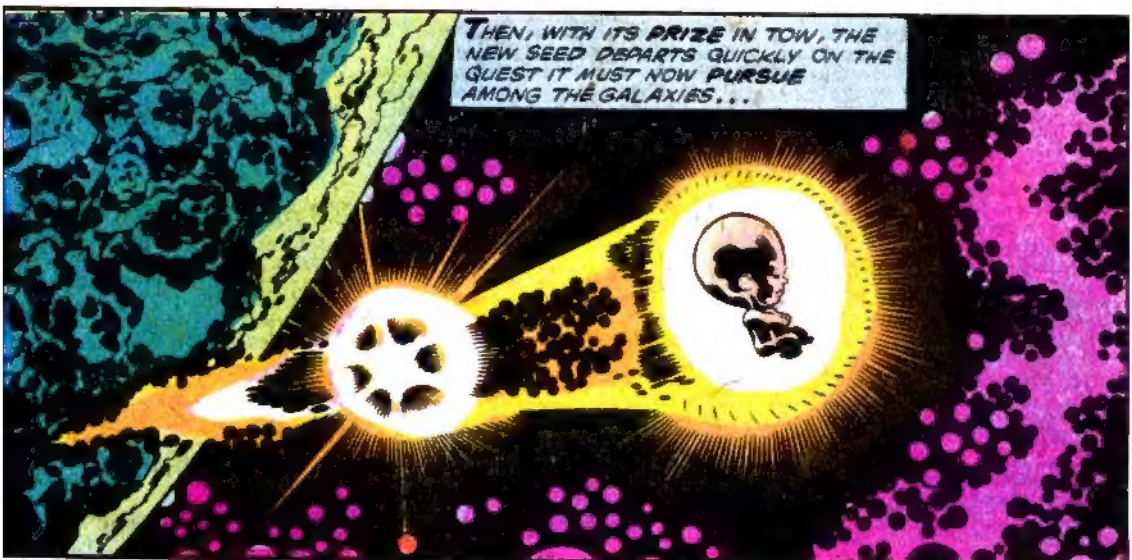
POWER FLOWS FROM THE NEW SEED TO THE TWO INERT FORMS BELOW. THE POWER DISSOLVES THEM INTO A GREAT GOLDEN GLOW OF FREE-WHEELING ATOMS...



WHERE THE LOVERS HAD BEEN, A STAR-LIKE OBJECT GOON FLASHES AND SHIMMERS IN THE DARKNESS WHICH SETTLES ON THE LIFELESS PLANET!...



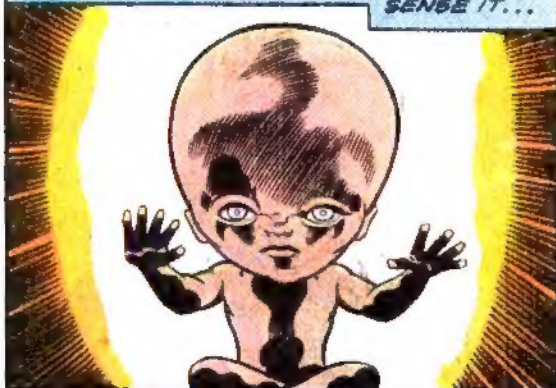
THEN, WITH ITS PRIZE IN TOW, THE NEW SEED DEPARTS QUICKLY ON THE QUEST IT MUST NOW PURSUE AMONG THE GALAXIES...



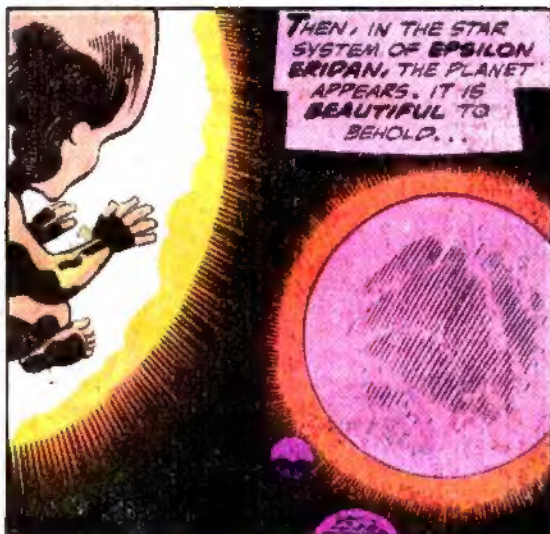
**COSMIC TRAVEL IS EFFORTLESS
AND SPEEDY. THE NEW SEED
GLITS ACROSS SPACE AND
TIME LIKE A FISH IN THE
DEPTHS OF HIS NATIVE
SEA...**



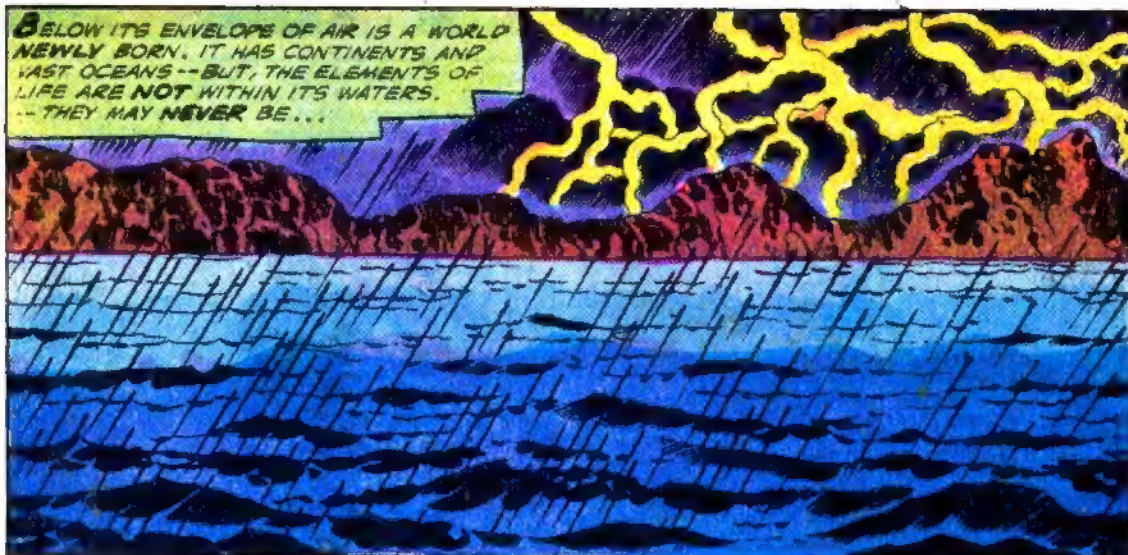
**IT HAS SEEN PLANETS WHERE LIFE HAS FLED.
IT HAS SEEN PLANETS WHERE LIFE STILL
THRIVES. IT HAS TOUCHED PLACES MUCH TOO
HOSTILE FOR LIFE... AND YET IT EXPLORES
ALL POSSIBILITIES FOR THE WORLD IT MUST
FIND. IT IS THERE--THE NEW SEED CAN
SENSE IT...**



**THEN, IN THE STAR
SYSTEM OF EPSILON
BRIDAN, THE PLANET
APPEARS. IT IS
BEAUTIFUL TO
BEHOLD...**



**BELOW ITS ENVELOPE OF AIR IS A WORLD
NEWLY BORN. IT HAS CONTINENTS AND
VAST OCEANS--BUT, THE ELEMENTS OF
LIFE ARE NOT WITHIN ITS WATERS.
--THEY MAY NEVER BE...**



THE MOMENT HAS COME FOR THE NEW SEED TO EJECT ITS BURDEN. IT DRIFTS DOWN LIKE A GOLDEN STAR FROM THE DARK HEAVENS...



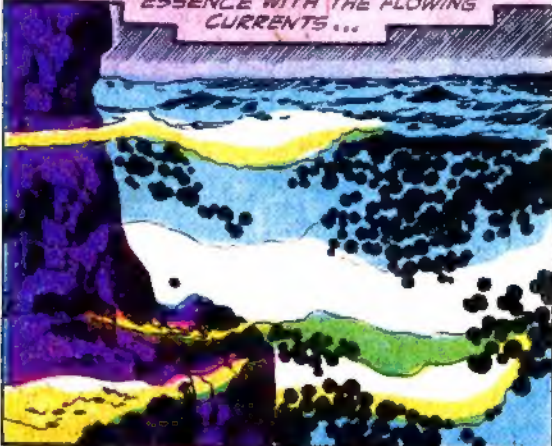
IT TOUCHES THE STERILE WATERS AND CONTINUES TO DESCEND. SOMEWHERE WITHIN ITS GOLDEN CORE, THE ATOMIC PARTICLES BUZZ HAPPILY--FAT AND VITAL WITH THE ELEMENTS OF LIFE...



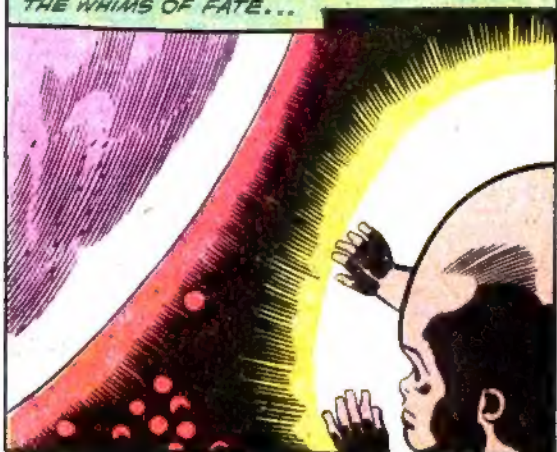
DESTINY IS IN THE MAKING ONCE MORE, AS THE OBJECT SUBMERGES. ITS RAYS FLARE BRIGHTLY BEFORE IT VANISHES.



BENEATH THE OCEAN'S SURFACE, THE OBJECT BECOMES A GREAT GLOWING CLOUD WHICH RAPIDLY EXPANDS AND MINGLES ITS ESSENCE WITH THE FLOWING CURRENTS...



A QUEST IS FULFILLED... A MISSION COMPLETED. A BILLION YEARS WILL PASS BEFORE LOVERS MAY LIVE AGAIN TO TEST THE WHIMS OF FATE...



PERHAPS HERE, A WAY OF BEING MAY FIND THE WHY OF BEING...



UNTIL THEN, THE NEW SEED DECIDES TO SEEK THE ANSWER HIMSELF. WHAT IF IT TURNED OUT TO BE MERELY--SIMPLE!!



OKAY... NOW YOU'VE MET A NEW SEED. "SO, WHAT ELSE IS THERE?" YOU ASK! ARE YOU KIDDING, BUSTER? ASK YOUR DEALER, NEXT MONTH, FOR:

THE CAPTURE OF X-51